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methamphetamine

meth

ice

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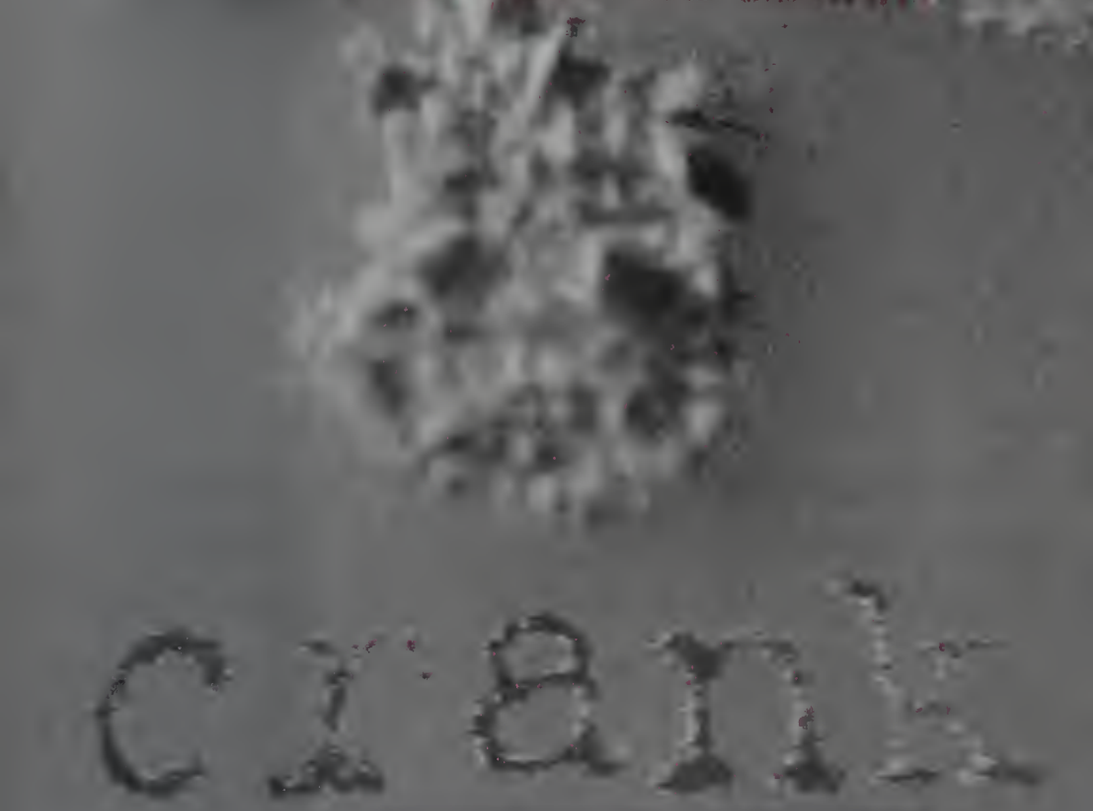

crank

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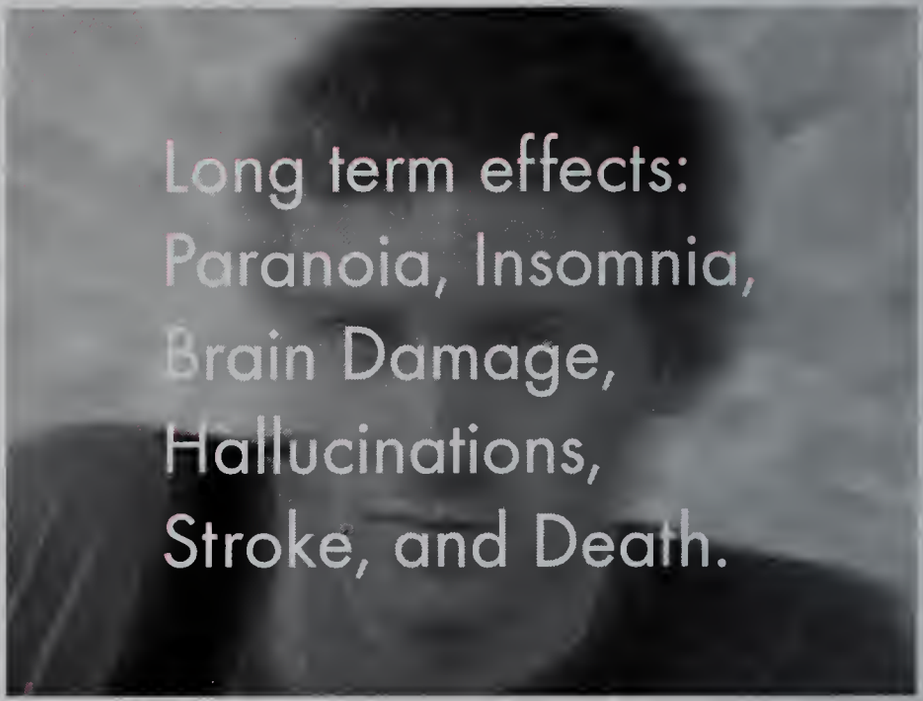
LISA MADIGAN
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

methamphetamine is a highly addictive nerve stimulant, similar to cocaine in its effects. It is known by many different names including meth, crank, and ice, and can be smoked, injected, snorted or taken orally. It is commonly sold in pill form, powder and chunks.

METH

Common meth "recipes" include combinations of over the counter drugs and common household chemicals including ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, salt, lithium batteries and ether (found in starter fluid). Another common formulation includes anhydrous ammonia, a popular fertilizer used by farmers.



Above: Items found at an illegal methamphetamine lab used in the production of meth.

Methamphetamine has experienced widespread use in rural areas of the Midwest but is also becoming increasingly popular in U.S. cities. Use is most prevalent among teens and young adults between the ages of 12 and 30. Women are just as likely to use meth as men.

Methamphetamine stimulates the central nervous system. Users experience a feeling of exhilaration and a false sense of well being followed by a severe crash and depression. In order to avoid the crash, users continue to take the drug in increasing doses, making it highly addictive.

Methamphetamine users may appear restless, anxious or paranoid. Some users exhibit aggressive behavior and impaired judgment, and they may experience hallucinations.

IS THERE A METH LAB NEAR YOU?

Methamphetamine labs are often located in rural areas because of the strong odor produced by the manufacture of methamphetamine. According to the Illinois State Police, some common signs of a meth lab include:

- Unusual, strong odors similar to cat urine, ether, and ammonia;
- Residences with windows covered or painted;
- Renters who pay their landlords in cash;
- Traffic – people coming and going at unusual times, especially at night;
- Excessive trash including items such as antifreeze containers, propane tanks, drain cleaner, starter fluid or duct tape; and
- Unusual amounts of clear glass containers being brought into the home.

IF YOU SUSPECT THE MANUFACTURE OF METH IN YOUR COMMUNITY...

Keep your distance – labs can explode from the volatile chemical combinations used to produce the drug.

Call local law enforcement or the Illinois State Police. If you find trash items used in the production of meth, do not attempt to dispose of them yourself.

A Message from
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL
LISA MADIGAN

Over the past decade, methamphetamine has shifted from a substance unknown to most Illinois residents to being a major challenge for law enforcement authorities, farmers, and ordinary citizens throughout Illinois and the entire Midwest.

Rural communities have born the brunt of the problem because meth production is more difficult to detect in less populated areas, and because farmers use a key meth ingredient – anhydrous ammonia – as a fertilizer. This dangerous drug has had a devastating impact on communities throughout the state.

Together, we can work to stop the spread of methamphetamine. Be aware of suspicious activity within your community and report that activity to the police. I hope this brochure will give you the information necessary to understand the meth problem and help stop the spread of methamphetamine in your community.

Lisa Madigan

Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General

LISA MADIGAN

ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Report suspicious activity regarding methamphetamine production or trafficking to the Office of the Attorney General – Statewide Grand Jury Bureau at:

Phone: 312-814-5200
TTY: 312-814-3374

To obtain more information on methamphetamine abuse, call the Illinois State Police – Safety Education Division at:

Phone: 217-524-2525
TTY: 800-255-3323
Or visit www.isp.state.il.us

www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov

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